

BINGHAM AND MAYOR REPLY TO DR. PARKHURST

File With Gov. Hughes Sweep-
ing Denials of Charges
Against Them.

ENFORCE LAW, THEY SAY

Police Commissioner Points
Out That 7,000 Excise Ar-
rests Have Been Made.

The replies and defenses of Mayor McClellan and Police Commissioner Bingham to the charges of the Parkhurst Society alleging them to be unfit for office because of wilful failure to enforce the excise law were handed to Gov. Hughes in Albany to-day by Secretary to the Mayor, William A. Willis and Secretary to the Police Commissioner, Daniel G. Slattery. The Mayor, beyond a specific denial of the charges, rests his defense chiefly upon the report of Commissioner Bingham, which is voluminous, searching, and pretty complete all around. It is also quite spicy.

In concluding his report to the Governor Mayor McClellan says:

"It does not seem to me that these charges are weighty enough to warrant any further discussion. Were it not for the fact that you, as Governor of the State, have called upon me for an answer, I should have been inclined to have disregarded them altogether."

He Defends Bingham.

"The gist of these charges, as I understand them, is that I have been guilty of retaining in office as Police Commissioner an official whom I have reason to know is guilty of misconduct or unfit for his position. I am also accused, it appears, of conniving at his alleged wrongdoings. Such a charge is hardly worthy of a reply. I have no reason for believing that Commissioner Bingham has been guilty of misconduct or that he is unfit for his position. On the contrary, I believe that he has enforced the ordinances of the city and the laws of the State in an effective manner, not giving preference to one law at the expense of another, but administering the duties of his office in such a way as to give the people of New York the fairest and most even police protection they have ever enjoyed."

Errors Pointed Out.

The Parkhurst charges specify that on certain Sundays in December, 1907, seventy-one certain saloons in the East One Hundred and Tenth street, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street and West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street precinct were open for business in violation of the law, and that the Police Commissioner and the Mayor were remiss in failing to close these places. There are twenty-four places specified in the East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth and West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street precincts, respectively, and twenty-three places in the East One Hundred and Tenth street precinct.

Investigation shows that two of the places reported by the Parkhurst agents as open saloons on the Sundays specified are not saloons at all. These are at No. 420 Lenox avenue and No. 130 East One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street. The Parkhurst agents charged that there was a saloon open in violation of the law at No. 269 First Avenue. There is no such number on First Avenue, the specified place being in the middle of Thomas Jefferson Park.

The Police Commissioner, in his reply to the Parkhurst charges, states that in the West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street precinct there are 24 places where liquor is sold and that nearly 200 of these places hold hotel licenses. The precinct embraces forty miles of streets and is manned by 144 patrolmen. In the East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street precinct there are 240 places where liquor is sold and nearly 200 of them are official rooming houses. The precinct embraces 22.5 miles of streets and is protected by 107 patrolmen.

Reports of Inspectors.

Appended to the report of Commissioner Bingham are reports from Inspector Dillon, of the Fifth Inspection District, and Inspector Thompson, of the Sixth Inspection District, who have charge of the three precincts in which the Parkhurst agents worked. They report that in December and January last there were seventy-five excise arrests in the three precincts, many of them in saloons reported by the Parkhurst people.

Between Sept. 1, 1907, and March 17, 1908, there were forty-three excise arrests made in the West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street Precinct. Magistrates discharged twenty-eight of the prisoners, held fourteen for trial and one case is pending. In the same period there were fifty-nine excise violations arrested in the East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Street Precinct. Magistrates discharged thirty-nine of the prisoners, suspended sentence of one and held nineteen for trial. In the East One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street Precinct during the same period there were one hundred and thirty-three excise violations arrested. Magistrates discharged sixty-five of the prisoners and held forty-eight for trial.

The Commissioner submits that this showing is evidence of anything but a lax enforcement of the Excise law. He says that nearly all the places reported by the Parkhurst agents are and have been for some time under strict police surveillance.

Comment on Parkhurst.

Continuing, Gen. Bingham says:

"The letters referred to in the charges, as addressed to the Police Commissioner, were received on December 12, December 21, 1907, and January 22, 1908, with the lists of places referred to, thereof, and also the printed circular of January 15, 1908, were all received. Recent and not acknowledged, however, owing to the fact that the president of the Society for the Prevention of Crime has, from time to time, ever since January 1, 1908, been abusive and vituperative of the present Police Commissioner, whom he has never personally seen nor even spoken with in public. Not only has he abused the Po-

lice Commissioner officially, but he has gone out of his way to make insulting remarks to the Police Commissioner's friends.

"The information transmitted in the letters referred to in the charges was, however, acted on promptly as shown elsewhere in this statement."

Theatres and Saloons.

In the Parkhurst charges reference is made to the strict enforcement by the police of the law against Sunday theatrical performances and it is stated that the Excise law could be as rigorously enforced. The Commissioner points out that there is no similarity whatever between the saloons and the theatres in the following comparison:

"The Sunday theatre law, whenever it becomes definitely known, can be easily enforced, because:

1. Theatres are comparatively few—less than 20.
2. Their hours of business are short and definite.
3. Most important of all, violations of the Sunday theatre law are necessarily open and public, and hence easily observed and impossible to be concealed.
4. Difficulties from Sunday theatre cases are comparatively few and very easily settled.
5. The nature of the violation takes place behind closed doors. Consequently, it is impossible for the police to act effectively in arresting for violations of the excise law unless they procure the evidence by procuring the commission of the crime.

Depends on Public Opinion.

"The most important element in enforcing obedience to the statutes is public opinion. Gen. Bingham continues, and the nearest desire is to see most people to see the law enforced and a willingness to co-operate, that without wishing to lay any blame

which belongs to the Police Commissioner on any one else, and without criticizing the action of any court whatsoever, it still is true that it is very difficult to have excise violators held for trial."

To stop excise violations requires not only arrests but convictions and punishment."

In conclusion the Commissioner shows that there are 12,000 places licensed to traffic in liquor in this city. There are available for patrol less than 1,700 policemen throughout the entire city in the daytime and less than 3,000 at night. The city has a population of four and one-third million people, includes over 25 square miles and 420 miles of streets to be patrolled. He says he needs 1,400 more policemen and a secret service bureau.

Thousands of Arrests.

In 1906, 1907 and 1908 up to March 17 there were 7,100 excise violation arrests made in Greater New York.

In the total of licenses issued, 12,000, there are 1,081 issued to storekeepers and pharmacists. The number of saloons and hotel licenses is 10,919 and Commissioner Bingham feels that a total of 7,100 violations picked up in approximately 17,344 places of business in two years and three months is a fair answer to a charge of inactivity. He closes with this remark:

"It must be admitted by all reasonable men that with a force totally inadequate in numbers to perform the many duties imposed on it by the statutes, there is room for an honest difference of opinion as to the proper distribution of this force between various societies interested in particular subjects and the official charged with the responsibility for the execution of all the laws and responsible for the protection of life and property throughout this great city."

"Possibly certain citizens and societies would like to have a larger part of the police force devoted to procuring violations of the excise law in order that more arrests might be obtained; but I am sure that to do so would be to deprive the public generally of the protection it very much needs and to which it is entitled."

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Weathered Oak Extension Table, Mission Style, with heavy legs, like cut, value \$12.50, at \$8.75.

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250 Sample Brass Beds at 1/2 Former Prices.

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Like Cut 9.50

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Introductory Values in Spring Silks

The following items, selected specially for this week's selling, show what we mean by a new "price-policy":

Radia brilliant, 24-in., in black and colors; value 1.00 a yd., at .50c

Rough pongees, colors and natural; 26-in., value 1.25 a yd., at 1.00

Satin striped foulards, printed in various sized polka dots; 24-in., value 1.25 a yd., at .75c

Printed bordure radium in dark colors, printed in white; 45-in., value 3.00 a yard, at 2.00

Black taffeta, 36 in., of firm, heavy quality; value 1.50 a yd., at .95c

Imported white taffeta of brilliant quality, 20-in., value 85c, at 65c

Imported white taffeta, 21-in., extra fine quality, value 1.00, at 78c

White and ivory crepe de chine of extra fine quality, 24-in., value 1.25 yard, at 85c

Printed crepe de chine in delicate tones; specially suitable for negligees and evening scarfs; value 75c a yard, at 50c

Imported black satin messaline, adapted to entire gowns and outer wraps, in a quality made especially for this store, 43-in., value 2.50 a yard, at 1.75

Same quality, but of heavier weight, 43-in., value 3.00 a yard, at 2.25

Ivory white taffeta, of well-wearing grade; value 75c a yard, at 58c

Printed pongees, ecru grounds with coin spots of contrasting colors, 24 in., at 65c

The Newest Dress Goods For Spring

Every fabric and coloring that will be worn this Spring and Summer are shown in our rich stock of dress goods. Many of the designs are exclusive with us. A few of the many special Introductory bargains are listed here, to serve as an instance:

Tailored suitings in light mixed shades of gray, blue and golden brown, woven in perfect chevron design; 45 in., at 1.50 a yd.

Novelty suitings in two and three-tone color effects, effectively blended in stripes; a beautiful fabric seen in advance French model suits; 46 in., at 1.50 a yd.

Mixed suitings of light and dark tones, relieved by narrow black striping; in light and iron grey, olive and cadet blue; 46 in., at 2.00

Smart check suitings; small broken effects in colors and black; also shepherd's plaid in black and white; 54 in., at 2.00

All-silk chiffon voile, in an exquisitely draping finish that will lend itself charmingly to the new Empire and princess frocks; 40 in., in cream, white, ciel, lavender, flesh pink, champagne and many other colors; regular 1.25 quality, at 72c a yard

Main Floor.

Spring Gloves--- And a Special Offer of Them

Besides our new importations of Meurice, Perrona and Linden glaze and suede gloves, in all lengths and shades, we offer for to-morrow's selling women's 16-button length French glaze kid mousquetaire gloves, in black, white and tan, At 2.35 a Pair, Regularly 3.25

Main Floor.

Introductory Display And Sale Days

TOMORROW is the second day of the most important week of this store's career. A great deal is expected of a new store—and especially of a new store that has laid down for itself and carried out a policy unique in New York dry-goods retailing—the combination of moderate prices with a resolve to show nothing that is not distinctive and individual. This is, and is to remain, a store as beautiful as any in its stocks and appointments, but it is also a practical store appealing to the woman of cultivated taste and of average means. And all this must be—and is—exemplified in this first Spring display. It is not only a "showing," but a selling event. We, ourselves, are not a bit less proud of the values presented than we are of the character of the merchandise. Both are typical of this store.

The Spring Millinery

In this city at this time, a millinery display that is merely first-class is merely commonplace. To make the deep impression that we wished it to make, our own millinery display had to be extraordinary in scope, irresistible in beauty, unprecedented in values offered.

The foremost millinery expert and designer in the United States has given the best that her art and skill could compass to attain this result. The result awaits your inspection.

From Paris are characteristic productions of the very best modistes. Susanne Talbot, Camille Roger, Lewis, Paulette et Berthe and Caroline Reboux are represented, with several others of less fame, but no less genius. With these, a striking demonstration of the powers of our own designers is given.

Included in the latter is a collection of specially-trimmed, specially-priced hats

At 10.00 Each

which we intend to make a permanent feature of the millinery department and which has all the superiority that such a permanent feature should have to win success.

Women's Spring Suits and Dresses

The distinctive style and individuality of the suits and dresses described below, which form a part of our Spring exhibit, are the achievement of a new department manager, our new dress-chief, whose ripened experience and style-judgment place him in the front ranks of dress experts. The prices, as will be seen on an examination of the handsome garments themselves, are from ten to thirty per cent. lower than the customary figures on garments of anywhere near the same style and beauty.

Among these are two handsome models in dresses made specially for this selling. Made of silk taffeta, in a variety of colorings and designs. They are out-and-out 25.00 values

At 18.50 Each.

We submit for the most critical inspection 400 tailored suits, each a fetchingly clever copy of exclusive French models that have but lately arrived here. Every model is shown that has won favor with well-gowned women, including the dip-back coats, close-fitting, cutaway coats with embroidered mannish vest and the new circular and gored skirts. The range of fabrics includes serges, chevrons, tweeds, mannish mixtures, rajahs, taffetas, pongees, marquisettes and voiles; every color is shown that is correct for suits of such beauty and distinction. Suits as fashionably designed and made can be had only at ten to fifteen dollars above our prices—

At 27.50, 35.00, 45.00 and 50.00

Tailored suits of linen and repp in two and the new three-piece models; a dozen chic, fashionable designs shown in white and new colorings, at 16.50, 18.50, 20.00, 25.00 to 125.00

Second Floor.

A Display and Sale of Handsome Waists

The flawless style-beauty and tasteful elaboration of the magnificent stock of waists which is being exhibited here this week must be seen to be appreciated. To add zest to these important Introductory Days at this store:

Charming waists of lingerie, linen and madras, in 25 new models; lingerie waists exquisitely elaborated with laces and embroidery; linen and white and colored madras waists in smart tailored effects; at 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50 and upward; worth, in each case, at least one-third more, on the standard of the usual pricing.

Dress waists of lace and net, in white, cream and ecru, over self-colored silk lining; tastefully trimmed in lace and embroidered effects; new collars and sleeves; at 4.50, 5.00, 6.50, 7.50 and upward; offering values that will be instantly appreciated on inspection.

Hand-embroidered lawn and linen waists, in beautiful domestic and imported models; elaborately embroidered in new, striking designs; at 4.00, 4.50, 5.50, 6.50 and upward. Some of these would ordinarily sell for a full dollar more than our Introductory Days' price.

Second Floor.

Children's Spring Coats

The Children's Wear Department is rich with the dainty beauty that Spring should bring as naturally as it brings the flowers. The models shown represent the careful pick of the best offerings of the leading makers, selected by an unerring taste, backed by a trained experience.

Special values are plentiful during the Introductory Days' selling—and will be plentiful through the season. Among them for to-morrow are: Children's Spring Coats in blue mohair and striped flannel, daintily trimmed with velvet, in sizes for ages 2 to 4 years. Usually \$4.50, at 3.45

Children's White Nansook Dresses, with hand-embroidered yoke; sleeves and neck lace-trimmed. The entire garments are hand-made. Sizes 6 months to 3 years. Usually \$3.95, at 2.65

Infants' Wear Dept., Second Floor.

6th Avenue, 18th to 19th Street

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